



Transmitted Via Electronic Mail

June 20, 2012

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region II
Emergency and Remedial Response Division
290 Broadway, 19th Floor, Room W-20
New York, NY 10007-1866
Attn: Alice Yeh

**Re: Monthly Progress Report No. 8
Combined Sewer Overflow/Stormwater Outfall Investigation
Diamond Alkali Superfund Site (Lower Passaic River Study Area)**

Dear Ms. Yeh:

Submitted herein is the Monthly Progress Report for work performed as part of the Combined Sewer Overflow/Stormwater Outfall Investigation for the Diamond Alkali Superfund Site (Lower Passaic River Study Area). This progress report has been prepared pursuant to Section IX Paragraph 53 of the Administrative Settlement Agreement and Order on Consent between the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Occidental Chemical Corporation, Index No. CERCLA-02-2011-2016.

If you have any questions, please call me at 732.246.5851.

Sincerely,

Tierra Solutions, Inc.

Paul Brzozowski
Remediation Manager
On behalf of Occidental Chemical Corporation
(as successor to Diamond Shamrock Chemicals Company)

cc: Carol E. Dinkins, Vinson & Elkins
Willard Potter, de maximis, inc.
Karyllan Dodson Mack, K&L Gates

CSO-SWO_Investigation_Monthly_Report_No_8.docx

10th Floor

Two Tower Center Blvd . East Brunswick, New Jersey 08816

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MONTHLY PROGRESS REPORT NO. 8
COMBINED SEWER OVERFLOW/STORMWATER OUTFALL INVESTIGATION
DIAMOND ALKALI SUPERFUND SITE (LOWER PASSAIC RIVER STUDY AREA)
WORK PERIOD: May 2012

Actions Taken Towards Achieving Compliance with the Order

- ☐ Tierra contracted with Groundwater Treatment and Technology on May 21, 2012 to begin construction of the sample collection system and trailer.
- ☐ Tierra continued pre-mobilization tasks in support of the field reconnaissance.
- ☐ Tierra received the sidewalk permit from the City of Newark for completion of field reconnaissance activities on May 18, 2012.
- ☐ Tierra submitted responses to USEPA comments on the Combined Sewer Overflow/Stormwater Outfall (CSO/SWO) Project- Specific Laboratory Method Detection Limit Study Report and the Combined Sewer Overflow/Stormwater Outfall Phase I Pre-Program Performance Evaluation (PE) Study Report with revised versions of the reports on May 25, 2012.

USEPA and Other Information/Correspondence Received

- ☐ Tierra received USEPA comments on May 15, 2012 on the CSO/SWO Investigation Quality Assurance Project Plan Addendum – *Lower Passaic River Study Area, Revision 0, April 2012*
- ☐ Tierra received approval on the revised CSO/SWO Project- Specific Laboratory Method Detection Limit Study Report and CSO/SWO Phase I Pre-Program PE Study Report from USEPA on May 30, 2012.

Validated Sampling or Testing Results Received or Generated During the Course of Implementing the Work

- ☐ None during this reporting period.

Future Plans, Actions and Data Scheduled for June and July 2012

- ☐ Perform field reconnaissance (estimate early July 2012).
- ☐ Initiate construction of the sample collection system and trailer (estimate early June 2012).
- ☐ Complete laboratory contracting with Vista Analytical, Test America Burlington and Brooks Rand laboratories (estimate mid July 2012).
- ☐ Initiate and conduct a laboratory audit of Brooks Rand Labs of Seattle, WA (estimate mid July 2012).
- ☐ Submit four-hole-punch particulate organic carbon study results to USEPA (estimate mid July 2012).
- ☐ Initiate low-solids mass dissolved phase method blank study (estimate mid July 2012).
- ☐ Initiate additional PE study for organochlorine pesticide analysis by Vista Analytical of El Dorado Hills, CA and TestAmerica of West Sacramento, CA (estimate early June 2012).
- ☐ Submit minutes from the conference call with USEPA on May 16, 2012 regarding the CSO/SWO Investigation organochlorine pesticide PE studies (estimate late June 2012).
- ☐ Submit response to comments and the revised CSO/SWO Investigation Quality Assurance Project Plan Addendum to USEPA (estimate mid June 2012).

Actual or Potential Violations, Other Problems Encountered and Corrective Actions

- ☐ None during this reporting period.

Delays Encountered or Anticipated and Mitigation Actions

- ☐ None during this reporting period.